GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:236
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2007
PRODUCTION OF WHEAT,GRAM AND MUSTARD
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production of wheat, gram and mustard registered during Rabi crops in the year 2007 and the extent to which it is more or less in comparison to the production registered during 2006;

(b) the measures the Government proposes to take to increase the production in view of the continuous decline in the production of Rabi crops; and

(c) the likely shortage of edible oil, pulses and wheat in the year 2007-08?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): Following table shows the production of wheat, gram and mustard during 2006-07 vis-Ã -vis 2005-06:

(Million Tonnes)			
Crop	2006-07#	2005-06	Difference (2)-(3)
1	2	3	4
Wheat	74.89	69.35	5.54
Gram	6.34	5.60	0.74
Rapeseed & Mustard	7.10	8.13	-1.03

4th advance estimates as on 19.07.2007

(b): There is no decline in production of wheat and gram in 2006-07 as compared to 2005-06. In order to increase the production and productivity of given crops, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme `Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize` (ISOPOM) is under implementation since 01.04.2004 in 14 States, viz., Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Under this scheme, assistance is provided on 75:25 basis between the Government of India and the State Governments for Production of breeder seed, foundation seed and certified seed, crash programme for quality seed production, distribution of certified seed, and Minikits, infrastructure development, integrated Pest Management etc. Besides, demonstrations on improved production technologies in oilseeds and pulses are conducted through Indian Council of Agricultural Research as a transfer of technology efforts.

(c): The schedule of release of production estimates for 2007-08 in respect of Kharif crops is September 2007 and for Rabi crops January 2008. However, as per the reports to the Crop Weather Watch Group of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, the area covered under these crops till 3rd August 2007 is as under:

(Lakh Hectares)		
Crop	2007-08	2006-07
Oilseeds	149.38	141.84
Pulses	95.19	89.20

The sowing of these crops is going on. Their production would depend on crop growth and formation. Wheat would be sown during September-December of 2007 and harvested in February-May of 2008.